

HOMELAND SECURITY ASSESSMENT OF TERRORISTS USE
OF GHOST GUNS ACT

JUNE 10, 2019.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, from the Committee on Homeland
Security, submitted the following

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2621]

This supplemental report shows the minority views with respect
to the bill (H.R. 2621), as reported, which was not included in part
1 of the report submitted by the Committee on Homeland Security
on May 28, 2019 (H. Rept. 116–88, pt. 1).

MINORITY VIEWS

H.R. 2621 requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) to develop and disseminate a threat assessment regarding the availability of ghost guns in furtherance of acts of terrorism. The bill is unnecessary and places a significant burden on DHS.

The requirements in the bill are largely duplicative. In the past ten months, DHS and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have released several reports on ghost guns to share information on ghost guns with Federal, state and local law enforcement partners. It is worth commending DHS and the FBI for analyzing emerging technology and assessing the issue of illegal usage of ghost guns seriously. However, the requirements of this legislation will only burden the agencies with unnecessary and never-ending mandates.

Furthermore, the threat assessment required under H.R. 2621 are to assess “the availability” of ghost guns rather than the intent and actual usage of the devices in a terror attack, which will provide little value to law enforcement. A similar requirement would be requiring I&A to assess the availability of knives or vehicles for use in a terror attack. Availability is not the issue.

The legislation does not include a sunset for assessments. Requiring annual threat assessments in perpetuity on this issue ignores the lack of evidence that ghost guns are being used in terrorist acts and places a significant burden on limited DHS resources.

Finally, the overly broad definitions in this bill will unfairly associate the legal acts of lawful gun owners, hobbyists, and gunsmiths with acts of terrorism.

MIKE ROGERS,
Ranking Member.

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